

Chapter 9 Plate Tectonics

Section 9.1 Continental Drift**(pages 248–253)**

This section explains the hypothesis of continental drift and the evidence supporting it.

Reading Strategy (page 248)

Summarizing Fill in the table as you read to summarize the evidence of continental drift. For more information on this Reading Strategy, see the Reading and Study Skills in the Skills and Reference Handbook.




Hypothesis	Evidence
Continental Drift	a. continental puzzle
	b.
	c.
	d.

The Continental Puzzle (page 248)

1. Wegener called Earth's ancient supercontinent _____.

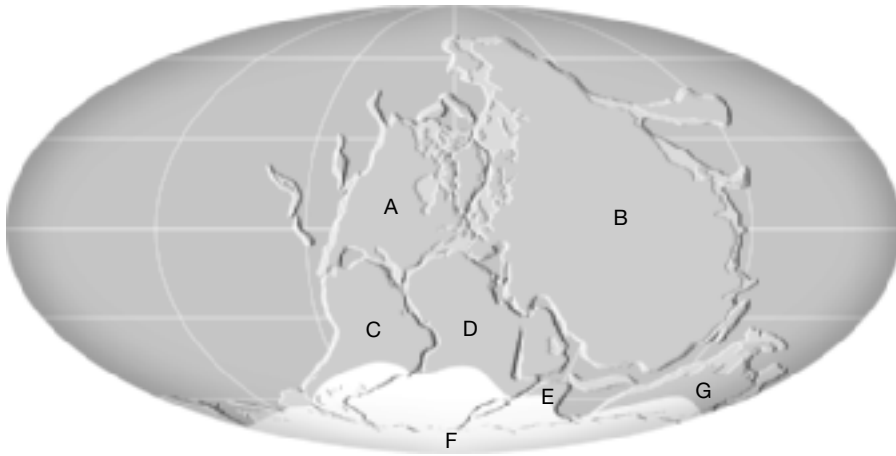
Evidence for Continental Drift (pages 249–251)

Match each example of continental drift with the type of evidence it is.

- | Example | Evidence for Continental Drift |
|--|--------------------------------|
| _____ 2.  Similar mountain chains run through eastern North America and the British Isles. | a. rock types and structures |
| _____ 3. Land areas that show evidence of ancient glaciation are now located near the equator. | b. matching fossils |
| _____ 4. The Atlantic coastlines of South America and Africa fit together. | c. continental puzzle |
| _____ 5.  Remains of Mesosaurus are limited to eastern South America and southern Africa. | d. ancient climates |
| 6.  _____ evidence for continental drift includes several fossil organisms found on different landmasses. | |
| 7. Is the following sentence true or false? If the continents were once part of Pangaea, rocks found on one continent should closely match those on the adjacent parts of another continent. _____ | |

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8. 🗎 The figure shows Earth's ancient supercontinent as it appeared about 300 million years ago, according to Alfred Wegener. Write the letter that represents each of the following present-day continents.



- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| _____ Antarctica | _____ North America |
| _____ Europe and Asia | _____ Africa |
| _____ South America | _____ Australia |
| _____ India | |

Rejection of Wegener's Hypothesis (page 252)

9. Circle the letter of an example of one objection that critics had about Wegener's continental drift hypothesis.
- Wegener could not provide any evidence to support continental drift.
 - Wegener's idea of the mechanism capable of moving the continents was physically impossible.
 - Wegener's fossil evidence was not accurate.
10. Is the following sentence true or false? Wegener proposed that during continental drift, larger continents broke through the oceanic crust.
- _____
11. By 1968, data collected about the ocean floor, earthquake activity, and the magnetic field led to a new theory called _____.